



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

“You can get help  
in finding out  
what your job skills are,  
**learn where to**  
look for jobs,  
**learn how to**  
talk with employers,  
**learn how to**  
better your chances  
of being hired during a  
job interview and  
**learn how to**  
keep a job.”

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County Department of Social Services

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Your Caseworker's Name

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DSS Brochure 2444 (JAN 04) Edition of NOV 02 is obsolete.

# Food Stamp Employment and Training Program



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

- **What is the Food Stamp Employment and Training Program?** The Food Stamp Employment and Training (FSE&T) Program is a program of the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS). The goal of this program is to enhance your employment skills and help you find a job. Participation in any FSE&T activity is voluntary. Sanctions will not be imposed for lack of participation.
- **Who can participate?** Any food stamp recipient may participate in the FSE&T Program.
- **How can the FSE&T Program help you?** Your DSS office will function as a “gatekeeper” and will refer you to job preparation programs and job assistance and training programs that will enhance your job readiness and help you find a job. These programs are offered through the South Carolina Employment Security Commission, your local DSS and in your community.
- **What services are available through FSE&T?** Services are offered through three components in South Carolina.

## ► Employment Security Commission “One-Stop Centers”

are funded through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). This component is administered by the South Carolina Employment Security Commission and coordinates with the business community to provide assessment, job training and job placement for any individual accepted by WIA. Services are broken down into three categories:

**Core Services** – Initial career assessment, job search and job placement assistance, support services, unemployment claims and financial aid information for continuing education.

**Intensive Services** – Tools and assistance to help you learn about your skill levels.

**Training Services** – Includes job readiness training, skills upgrading and retraining, on-the-job training and other training assistance programs.

## ► “Survival Skills”

are offered at your local DSS county offices. DSS offers internal programs that include:

**Job Club** – Job Club consists of structured classroom training to include job readiness training where participants learn job seeking and job retention skills. Participants will be trained on how to conduct their own job searches and how to access labor market information.

**Work Experience** – Work Experience involves training based on a participant’s vocational objective or work normally identified as community services or volunteer work. It offers benefits to participants such as acquisition of on-the-job experience to create work history with references, as well as other benefits.

**Family Life Skills** – Family Life Skills classes are offered to address personal, social and other work related participants’ needs. Components in the training classes help participants address parenting, budgeting and family planning/medical information issues that are work related, as well as other important issues.

## ► Other Community Programs

There are a number of other resources in your community to help you address barriers that may interfere with getting a job or keeping a job:

**Alcohol and Drug Abuse** – Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) provides a variety of services directed toward individualized treatment, intervention and prevention of substance abuse. Support services such as counseling may be provided.

**Non-Vocational Education** – Basic non-vocational education provides general education and employment related education in a classroom setting or on a one-on-one basis. Programs may include GED and literacy programs, developmental education programs and other non-vocational education provided by the Workforce Investment Act.

**Vocational Rehabilitation** – Vocational Rehabilitation Department (VR) provides job assistance and training to individuals with treatable mental or physical disabilities. Services may include evaluation of rehabilitation potential, counseling, referral and placement services, vocational and other training services, work sampling and restorative services to correct or substantially modify physical or mental conditions.

**Mental Health** – South Carolina Department of Mental Health offers a variety of treatment programs to address emotional health issues to include counseling, support groups and other services geared toward best serving people within their communities.

- **Are support services offered for FSE&T participants?** DSS will pay \$25 per month to transportation providers to help with transportation costs. Childcare is not offered through this program.

- **What do I need to do to participate?** Your local DSS office can help you identify local resources and can help you access these services. Contact your Food Stamp eligibility worker in your local DSS office for a referral to any FSE&T component.